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ALAN
DAVIS
MARK
FACNER

EXCALIBUR

SO
WHAT ARE
YOU LOOKING
AT?



30TH
ANNIVERSARY
1962 - 1992



THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN

BRADDOCK MANOR,
ENGLAND...

PLEASE,
GRANK!!

...I CAN
BEAR NO
MORE
NNIMPH!!

SHOOT ME,
ERK!
PUT ME OUT
OF MY
MISERY.



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THE POWERFUL CAPTAIN BRITAIN, THE SHAPE-CHANGING MEGGAN, THE INTANGIBLE SHADOWCAT, THE TELEPORTING NIGHTCRAWLER, THE MYSTERIOUS PHOENIX, THE EVER-UNPREDICTABLE WIDGET AND LOCKHEED THE DRAGON, FORGED IN THE FIRES OF THEIR TRAGIC PASTS, THEY HAVE Banded TOGETHER TO FIGHT A MODERN DAY CRUSADE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL! STAN LEE PRESENTS...

EXCALIBUR!

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER

ALAN DAVIS
WRITER/PENCILER
GLYNIS OLIVER
COLORIST
TERRY KAVANAGH
EDITOR
CHRIS CLAREMONT AND ALAN DAVIS,
CO-CREATORS

MARK FARMER
INKER
MICHAEL HEISLER
LETTERER
TOM DE FALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

OOOOOH, AHH,
OOAH.
BLISSSSSS...

DANKE,
KITTY, DANKE.
OOAH,
WUNDERBAR...

THE ITCH
WAS DRIVING
ME INSANE.

YOU'RE LUCKY PROFESSOR
XAVIER SAID IT WAS OKAY TO REMOVE
THE CAST, KURT... I'D HAVE LEFT IT
ON FOR ANOTHER MONTH.

TO TEACH ME
THE CONSEQUENCE
OF VIOLENCE, I
PRESUME.

SCRATCH
SCRATCH

NO, THAT'S
A RISK WE ALL
ACCEPT.

I MEANT YOU'RE LUCKY THAT MUTANTS HEAL SO QUICKLY. AN ORDINARY PERSON'S FEMUR WOULD TAKE ABOUT EIGHT WEEKS TO KNIT.

THERE'S NO SIGNIFICANT MUSCLE WASTAGE. HOW DO YOU FEEL?

YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE IT EASY FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

STIFF AND A LITTLE WEAK. MOSTLY I AM JUST OFF-BALANCE--I HAVE GROWN USED TO COMPENSATING FOR THE WEIGHT OF THE CAST.

I HAVE NOT THE TIME. I RECEIVED A LETTER-- VIA JEAN GREY--FROM AN OLD FRIEND, JUTTA.

SHE NEEDS MY HELP. I AM LEAVING FOR GERMANY WITHIN THE HOUR.

CAN I COME?

AS SEEN IN MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #101-103...--TERRY

NO!... THANK YOU. IT IS PERSONAL.

GREAT, YOU'RE LEAVING ME ALL ALONE IN THIS SPOOKY MAUSOLEUM...

I THOUGHT YOU PLANNED TO EXAMINE THE 'NEW WIDGET' WITH ALISTAIRE.

YEAH, WELL... HECK, I'M SORRY, KURT.

I'M DEPRESSED. I MISS RACHEL. YOU MUST--

WHOOOAH!

THAT WAS SLOPPY. I AM OUT OF PRACTICE.

YOU MUST NOT BROOD, KITTY. BRIAN AND THE OTHERS WILL SOON RETURN. THEY WENT TO HELP DAI THOMAS TRACK SOME MISSING PERSONS.

DAI ONLY REQUESTED MEGGAN'S ASSISTANCE, BUT KYLLIN AND CERISE WENT ALONG JUST IN CASE.

JUST IN CASE? DAI THOMAS HAS A KNACK OF UNCOVERING TROUBLE...



"...BUT WHAT TROUBLE
CAN THERE BE IN RECOVER-
ING A FEW LOST PEOPLE?"

WHEN BRIAN BRADDOCK
FIRST BECAME CAPTAIN
BRITAIN HE SAW HIS
PRODIGIOUS STRENGTH
AS A CURSE.

IN A WORLD OF FRAIL
HUMANS, EVERY GES-
TURE, EVERY GRIP,
EVERY TOUCH HAD TO
BE GAUGED.

EVEN IN HIS
FOULEST RAGE
HE LEARNED
TO PULL HIS
PUNCHES--

--BITTER EXPERIENCE, THE
DEATH OF AN INNOCENT,
TAUGHT CAPTAIN BRITAIN
THE IMPORTANCE OF
RESTRAINT...

...BUT THAT IS
NOT A CONCERN
TODAY.

TODAY, THE
GLOVES ARE
OFF.



SURVIVAL
IS ALL.

THE ONSLAUGHT
OF ANIMAL FURY
IS RELENTLESS.

THERE IS NO TIME
TO THINK. INSTINCT
GUIDES CAPTAIN
BRITAIN'S SUPER-
HUMAN REACTIONS.

SAVAGE,
PRIMAL
INSTINCT.



AND, THOUGH HIS SITUATION
SEEMS WITHOUT HOPE, HE
FEELS A SURGE OF EUPHORIC
RELIEF...



...AS LONG SUPPRESSED
RAGE IS RELEASED IN
DEVASTATING PHYSICAL
FORCE.

IN THE FACE
OF MORTAL
DANGER, HIS
SPIRIT SOARS.

BUT WHEN HIS RAGE FADES,
THE MONSTROUS ATTACKERS
CONTINUE TO STREAM FROM
THE INFINITE SHADOW.

AND IF CAPTAIN
BRITAIN HAD TIME
TO THINK...

...HE WOULD
THINK OF
ESCAPE.

WHA--?

SPLOSH

WATER.

COLD.

DEEP.
GOT TO PULL
UP...

...GET
BACK TO
THE...

RREK

...SURFACES? I'M
UNDERGROUND...

NO AIR
POCKETS

NO SIGN
OF WHERE
I FELL
THROUGH...

DIDNT GET A
DEEP BREATH
BEFORE I WENT
UNDER.

RUNNING
OUT OF AIR.

GOING
TO
DROWN.



ONLY ONE
WAY OUT.

TUNNEL TO
SURFACE.

NO--SHOCKWAVE
IS COMPACT.
ROCK'S SOLID.

COULD BE
A MOUNTAIN
ABOVE.



GOT TO BE
ANOTHER WAY--
A CHAIN?



AND A
PLUG.



IT'S CRAZY.
INSANE.

NO
OPTION.

HAVE TO
RISK IT.



TIME...

...RUNNING...

...OUT...

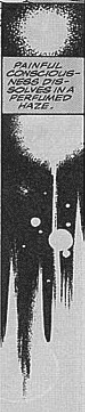
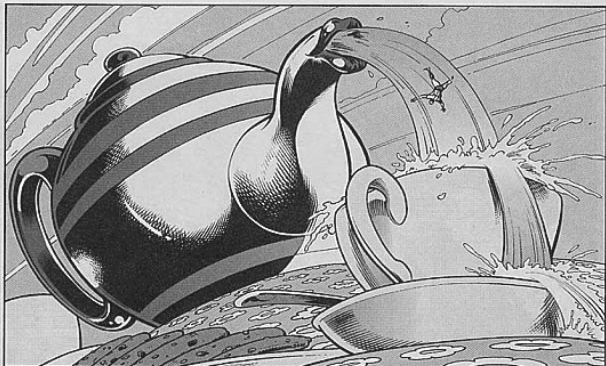


GOT TO
GO...

...WITH...

...THE...

...FLOW...



...AND MEMORY
FILLS THE VOID.

THE ENTIRE POPULATION
OF THIS VILLAGE--TWENTY-
SEVEN PEOPLE, ALL OVER
SIXTY YEARS OLD--HAVE
VANISHED WITHOUT
TRACE.

THERE
MUST BE SOME
CLUE, DAI.

NONE. BATHS WERE LEFT
RUNNING, MEALS HALF EATEN,
TELEVISIONS STILL ON. WHAT-
EVER HAPPENED WAS SUDDEN,
BUT THERE IS NO SIGN OF
FOUL PLAY.

THEY
WANTED TO GO.

THEY WERE
HAPPY--I CAN
FEEL IT.

THEY
AREN'T
FAR
AWAY.

MEGGAN BEGINS TO
SHAPESHIFT INTO A
FORM THAT POSSESSES
THE KEEN TRACKING
SENSES...

...OF A
WOLF.

BUT SOMEHOW,
THE TRANSFOR-
MATION SLIPS
AND SHE
ASSUMES THE
SOFT FLUFFY
ASPECT...

...OF A WHITE RABBIT.

MEGGAN?!
WAIT...!

MEGGAN!

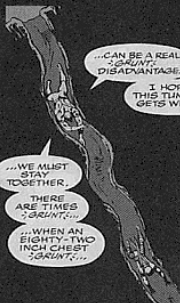
CAPTAIN, WHEN MEGGAN
METAMORPHOSIZED THERE
WAS A BURST OF PSYCHIC
ENERGY.

LIKE A
SIGNAL.

SHE MUST
BE ON THE
TRAIL OF
THE MISSING
VILLAGERS

NO, CAPTAIN.
SHE'S TRAVELING
TOO FAST TO BE
TRACKING.

SHE KNOWS
WHERE SHE
IS GOING.





PERHAPS,
AS A CHILD,
YOU FELT
EMOTION-
ALLY
STARVED...

...IN THE
SHADOW OF
YOUR EVER-
SUCCESSFUL
BROTHER,
JAMIE.

AND YOUR LOVELY
VIVACIOUS SISTER,
BETSY.

YOU COULD
NOT COMPETE
WITH THEM, SO
YOU HID IN
YOUR BOOKS,
DIDN'T YOU?

YOU MIGHT HAVE
BEEN ABLE TO
BRAINWASH
MEGGAN, BUT
YOUR MIND
GAMES WON'T
WORK ON ME!

BROTHERS
HOLD FAST
WITH LEAF
AND ROOT.

AND
WE WILL HOLD
THIS STRUGGLING
BRUTE.

NO CHANCE!
YOU'RE
PLUCKED.

BETTER NOW? HAS THIS
MINDLESS MUTILATION
SATIATED YOUR VIOLENT
APPETITE?

NO!
I DON'T LIKE TO BE
PSYCHOANALYZED--

--ESPECIALLY
BY A CHESHIRE
CAT--

--AND I WANT TO WIPE
THAT SAUCY
GRIN OFF
YOUR FACE.

MIYOK!

EEEEK!

OUR SAPPY
STEMS ARE
SHREDED.

TO
THE COMPOST
HEAP WE ARE
HEADED.

EVERYTHING'S
FADING.

NO MATTER, I
HAVEN'T TIME TO
FATHOM THE
PURPOSE OF THIS
INSANITY.

I'VE GOT
TO FIND
MEGGAN
AND THE
OTHERS.



BUT NONE OF THE CRAZY GANG HAS THE POWER TO CREATE WHATEVER THIS PLACE IS. SOMEONE ELSE IS INVOLVED.

LAST TIME IT WAS ARCADE. BUT HIS MURDERWORLDS WERE NEVER AS REALISTIC OR SOPHISTICATED AS THIS ENVIRONMENT... EVEN WITH HIS SHI'AR TECHNOLOGY.

*SPIDER-MAN #25.
--TERRY

I KNOW I'M UNDERGROUND, BUT I CAN'T SEE THE CAVERN CEILING.

THIS PLACE IS HUGE. IT MUST TAKE ENORMOUS POWER TO SUSTAIN IT.

I CAN ONLY HOPE TWEEDLEDOPE WILL LEAD ME TO THE MASTERMIND.

Tea Party
THIS WAY

THERE'S THE JESTER, THE EXECUTIONER AND KNAVE.

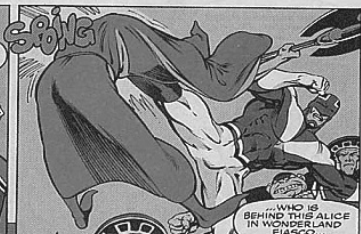
NO SIGN OF THE RED QUEEN-- BUT THOSE OLD FOLK IN FANCY DRESS... THEY'RE THE KIDNAPED VILLAGERS.

AND MEGGAN-- WHAT HAVE THOSE LUNATICS DONE TO HER?

SHE'S ACTING LIKE ONE OF THEM.











SEVEN TROUT WITH
JUST A BENT PIN AND
A WORM. IT IS TRULY
A DREAM COME
TRUE.

YOU CAN
HAVE TOO
MUCH OF A GOOD
THING,
KYLLIN.

ANYWAY, WE
CAME HERE FOR
A REASON.

NO MORE
FIGHTING.
PLEASE.

OR SELF-
DEFENSE.

WE WILL NOT DO CRIME
NO MORE. EVERYTHING
WE WANT IS HERE.

THE WORLD
OUTSIDE IS
CONFUSING,
COLD,
CRUEL...

AND
VIOLENT!

I THOUGHT YOU
HAD KIDNAPED THE
VILLAGERS--

--HOW
DID THEY GET
HERE?

WE WERE
INVITED.

THE VILLAGERS HAD
BEEN NICE TO US. WE
WANTED THEM TO SHARE
IN OUR JOY.

WE DIDN'T
MEAN TO CAUSE
ANY STRIFE.

WE BEEN
HAVIN' SO
MUCH FUN
WE FORGOT
ABOUT THE
TIME.

WE CAN GO HOME
AND DEFUSE THE
KIDNAP CRISIS.
THERE NEEDN'T BE
ANY TROUBLE.

PLEASE,
DO NOT TELL--
THIS IS OUR
SECRET.

DON'T WORRY.
EVERYTHING
WILL BE FINE.

WON'T IT,
BRIAN...?

I SUPPOSE SO...
AS LONG AS THE
CRAZY GANG STAY
HERE AND KEEP OUT
OF TROUBLE, WE
CAN ALWAYS COME
TO CHECK ON
THEM.

THANK YOU, BRIAN.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE
GOING TO BE
DIFFICULT.

THIS CRAZY PLACE
HAS MADE ME LOOK
AT MYSELF. I DIDN'T
LIKE WHAT I SAW.

I NEED
TO SPEAK TO
MY SISTER,
BETSY.

ANYTIME,
YES.

FOR
TEA AND
CAKE AND
SINGING.

I REACTED
LIKE A THUG
WHEN I CAME
HERE--

--KURT WOULDN'T HAVE.
HE THINKS BEFORE HE ACTS.
HE DESERVES TO LEAD
EXCALIBUR.

BRADDOCK
MAJOR...

AMAZING!
ABSO-BLOOMIN'-
LUTELY
AMAZING.

THIS NEW WIDGET
IS EVEN MORE OF AN
ENIGMA THAN HIS
"KERMIT"
INCARNATION.

THE HEAD, SHOULDERS
AND FINGERTIPS ARE
OBVIOUSLY A METAL ALLOY
OF SOME SORT...

...BUT THE BODY-- FOR
WANT OF A BETTER WORD
--HAS NO MEASURABLE
MASS. YET, IT DISPLACES
AIR.



YEAH, I KNEW
YOU'D BE MORE
INTERESTED IN THE
ORGANIC CIRCUITRY
THAT COVERS THIS
CAVERN.

IT WAS GROWN
FROM A NODE OF
THE OMNIVERSAL
COMPUTER.

BRIAN'S DAD
BROUGHT IT FROM
OTHERWORLD.

AND HAS AN INTERNAL
TEMPERATURE OF SEVENTY-
TWO DEGREES BELOW ZERO.
KITTY-- ARE YOU
LISTENING...?

SORRY, ALISTAIRE... I
WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION.

I KNOW,
BUT IT'S DEAD
NOW, SO IT CAN
WAIT.

KITTY, WHAT'S
WRONG?

KURT
IS!

C'MON, KITTY, HE'S ONLY
JUST LEFT-- IF HE RUNS INTO
TROUBLE, HE'LL CALL.

IT'S NOT
WHAT HE MIGHT
RUN INTO, IT'S
WHAT HE'S
RUNNING
FROM.

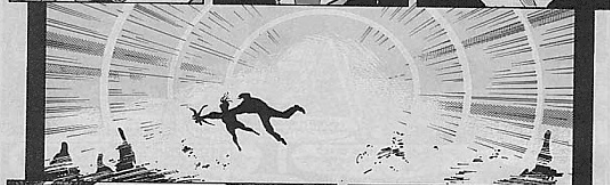
I TRIED TO TALK TO
HIM ABOUT HER, BUT
HE CHANGED THE
SUBJECT.

HE FEELS
RESPONSIBLE
FOR WHAT
HAPPENED TO
RACHEL.

GIVE HIM TIME,
KITTY. HE NEEDS
TO WORK IT OUT
FOR HIMSELF.



YULP!



SWORD STOKES

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

TERRY KAVANAGH
EDITOR
MARK POWERS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

ATTENTION! A special announcement before we get started with this issue's *Sword Stokes*. In our recently-published EXCALIBUR SPECIAL EDITION, we unintentionally neglected to credit BRIAN STELFREEZE, who penciled and inked Chapter 3, pages 11-16 (the very beautiful Meggan vs. Angel story), with an assist from Karl Story. So sorry, Brian!

Now, on to you!

Dear Camelions,

Re: issue #50. Tell Alan Davis how very much I loved the last panel. What a moment of genuine comic magic! So profound, so...perfect.

The irony, the irony.

Drew Sprayder
P.O. Box 564
Sedona, AZ 86336

We're sure Alan will appreciate your comments, Drew! Thanks!

Dear Terry and Mark,

"Winner Loses All" was certainly an appropriate title for issue #50. Rachel may have defeated Necrom, but she ended up a vegetable. Although I may not like what happened to her, I have to admit that this was the best EXCALIBUR story to date. The artwork and the story were simply spectacular! Thank you, Mr. Davis, for tying up most of the loose plotlines that have accumulated in this title, and turning them into a great piece of work. You have really outdone yourself this time.

Anyways, now that Excalibur has more than enough new members and a great supporting cast, I think it's time that Kitty, Kurt, and Rachel return to the X-Men. Although I have enjoyed their presence in EXCALIBUR, I always felt that they belonged with the X-Men. As long as this title continues to produce quality stories and artwork, I am confident that this book can stand by itself, without the presence of former X-Men.

Thanks for listening, and keep up the great work.

Robert Hemedes
1908 Laine St
West Covina, CA 91792

Sorry, Robert, but those former X-Men will be with Excalibur for a long time to come. After all that they've been through together, Excalibur is more than a team — they're a family.

Dear Sword Stokes,

I LOVE EXCALIBUR!! I have every issue, and it has been stupendous! Since the return of Alan Davis in issue #42, however, it has been more than words can express...

I have just finished reading issue #50. WOW!! Forty-nine issues of marvelous manipulations come to an end. (Or do they?) Everything is tied in, tied up and, well...it boggles the mind to think of the implications of Marlyn and Necrom's (and Roma's?) mad schemes.

I love the idea of Kylon and the beautiful Cerise joining Excalibur, but please after that, no new people for a while. I think everyone

on the EXCALIBUR staff is creating the best comic book out there. Nightcrawler is my favorite, since I happen to be German myself, but I think the whole team is great!

I have to put my two cents in: Don't change Ken Lopez's cover logo! So, until Numbers and the Dragon come back for parental guidance, Make Mine Marvel!

Jason Michael Kennedy Lutgens
47 Elm St. Apt. 310
Elizabeth, NJ 07208

We've received some interesting responses to our new logo, Jason. Some agree with you, but just as many don't! Read on!

Dear Sword Stokes,

Congrats to all on issue #50! A job well done! Alan Davis continues to amaze me as an artist, and he can write excellent stories, too! To weave all the previous EXCALIBUR tales into one long prologue for this issue's story was pure genius! Now, some other comments:

The new logo looks a bit familiar, but it's an improvement over the old one!

Kylon, Cerise, and even Micromax would all be choice additions to the team. I can't wait to see Kylon's mutant power used in combat! I would not like to see Feron stay, except perhaps as an occasional villain trying to re-establish his ancestor's link to the Phoenix force.

Widget's new body looks real cool!

The Excalibur crest was an unexpected bonus! It looked real nifty, too!

Excalibur faces a new beginning, with new teammates, a new headquarters and a new direction free of higher manipulations! Long Live Excalibur!

Douglas M. Cook
6159 SE 39th Ave.
Ocala, FL 32671

A positive take on the new logo — and the book in general! Thanks, Doug!

Dear Sword Stokes,

First of all, I would like to congratulate EXCALIBUR for having Alan Davis. I've never seen better art.

Concerning issue #50, I don't really like the new logo. The old one was better. Loved everything else, though, especially the "Coat of Arms." I can't wait to see what happens to Rachel. Are Cerise and Kylon going to be new members of Excalibur? I'm going to miss their lighthouse.

So, until Widget starts singing, Make Mine Excalibur!

Tristan Albert Wencoslaw
C74a Guvernville 2
Libertad St., Mandaluyong
Metro Manila, Philippines

Yes, Tristan, Kylon and Cerise (as you probably know by now) are the newest members of Excalibur! (And we've got another "thumbs down" on the logo.)

Dear Sword Stokes,

I have been collecting comics and reading EXCALIBUR for about a year and a half.

Since that time I have acquired all the back issues. EXCALIBUR is my favorite comic, and issue #50 is the best one yet! Just as promised, Alan Davis has tied up many of the loose ends in this title, but I still have a few questions:

1) When will we learn more about Widget and Cerise?

2) When will we learn more about the Courtney Ross/Saturnyne and the Nigel Frobisher/Jamie Braddock relationships?

3) I really like the new logo on the cover? Is it permanent? Will you be changing the heading on the letters page also?

4) How will the destruction of the lighthouse and the Energy Matrix affect Captain Britain's strength and powers?

Keep up the good work! I will be waiting for issues #75 and #100. So, until Kylon uses his mutant power to become an Elvis impersonator, Make Mine Marvel!

Jeff Hobbs,
4540 Barnett Rd. Apt. 222
Wichita Falls, TX 76310

1) Widget is now a multi-dimensional being, Jeff. As such, he'll be popping in and out a lot. As for Cerise, more on her very soon! Keep reading!

2) More information concerning Courtney, Saturnyne, Nigel and Jamie is coming up in the next two issues. Is that soon enough?

3) A "thumbs up!" Yep, sure is permanent!

4) The Energy Matrix still exists, so Cap does still draw his power from it. However, the Matrix's power has been cut off from the lighthouse and, thankfully, Marlyn.

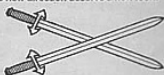
Dear Sword Stokes,

I must admit, your comic is my favorite comic in the "world" (you know, "world"). Except for one thing — the new logo. May I ask, what inspired such a change? You have to admit, the sword was a really good part of the logo. I understand a different team, but a different logo? If you had to change it, why didn't you incorporate a sword in there somewhere?

Otherwise, your comic is still my favorite. Until Nightcrawler dies and comes back as...as...hmmmm...let me think on this one...anyhow, Make Mine Marvel!

Jessica Harbrough
260 East Baltimore St.
Taneytown, MD 21787

Sorry you're not happy about the new logo, Jessica. We feel the new team and the new direction deserve a new look!



NEXT ISSUE: Psylocke comes to Braddock Manor for a family reunion — and at least one guest won't survive!